





## Biosphere 2

**Website:** <http://www.b2science.org>  
**Address:** 20 minutes north of Tucson, 90 minutes south of Phoenix. Turn on Biosphere Rd. from Hwy. 77 (Oracle Rd.) at mile marker 96.5  
**Phone:** 520-838-6200  
**Hours:** Open every day except Thanksgiving and Christmas. Reservations recommended for tour groups of 10 or more. Call for seasonal hours, rates, directions and additional information.  
**Entrance Fees:** Adults \$20, Children ages 6-12 \$13, Children ages 5 and under FREE. Additional discounts and group rates are also available. Please call for more information.

**Overview:**  
 Tour this renowned environmental research facility and see where science lives. Biosphere 2, under the management of The University of Arizona, is one of the world's most unique facilities dedicated to the research and understanding of global scientific issues. Your Guided Tour of this 3.14-acre laboratory for controlled scientific studies includes the Biosphere 2 structure interior, movie theater, human habitat,



climate change exhibit, and more. Self-guided tours are also available.

Please call for tour times or visit [www.b2science.org](http://www.b2science.org) for further information.

## Canyon Lake - Steamboat

**Website:** <http://www.canyonlakemarina.com/> & <http://www.dollysteamboat.com/>  
**Address:** 16802 N.E. Highway 88, Tortilla Flat, AZ 85219  
**Phone:** Dolly Steamboat: 480-827-9144, Canyon Lake Marina: 480-288-9233  
**Hours:** Nature Cruises depart Tuesday through Sunday at 12:00 pm. Additional cruises may be scheduled.  
**Entrance Fees:** Nature Cruises are \$18.00; Dinner Cruises are \$51.95-\$61.95

**Overview:**  
 Dolly Steamboat has been offering cruises on Canyon Lake for over 20 years. Canyon Lake is made up of more than 28 miles of cactus speckled shoreline, amazing rock formations, and serene coves. A variety of wildlife inhabits the lake's surroundings such as big horn sheep, deer and numerous species of birds. During the Dolly Steamboat tours, the captain will share with you the enchanting tales of the Superstition Mountains.



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**Information found at:** <http://www.canyonlakemarina.com/index.htm> & <http://www.dollysteamboat.com/>

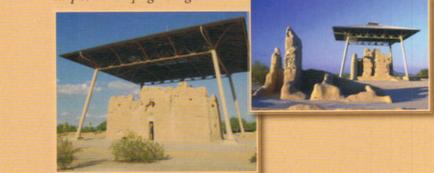


## Casa Grande Ruins National Monument

**Website:** <http://www.nps.gov/cagr/>  
**Address:** 1100 Ruins Drive, Coolidge, Arizona 85228  
**Phone:** 520-723-3172  
**Hours:** Daily 8:00 am to 5:00 pm except Christmas Day  
**Entrance Fees:** \$3.00 per person, Children ages 16 and under are admitted FREE. Golden Eagle, Golden Age, and Golden Access Passport cards are honored.

**Overview:**  
 Casa Grande Ruins National Monument is a unique structure built by the Hohokam Indians in the 14th century. The Big House stands an impressive four story building. The ruin is 40 feet by 60 feet at the base and some of the walls are more than 3-feet thick. It is located in Coolidge but only 15 miles from Casa Grande. The visitor center has a lot of information available about the Hohokam people. The Casa Grande Ruins were the first archeological site to be protected as a National Monument in the United States in 1982.

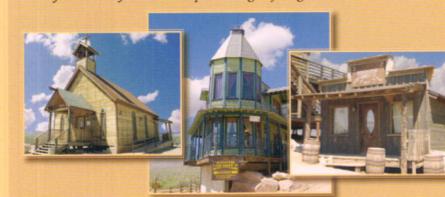
**Information found at:** [http://www.americansouthwest.net/arizona/casa\\_grande/national\\_monument.html](http://www.americansouthwest.net/arizona/casa_grande/national_monument.html) & <http://www.nps.gov/cagr/>



## Goldfield Ghost Town

**Website:** <http://www.goldfieldghosttown.com/>  
**Address:** 4650 N. Mammoth Mine Rd., Goldfield, AZ 85219  
**Phone:** 480-983-0333  
**Hours:** Daily 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, Saloon 10:00 am to 8:00 pm  
**Entrance Fees:** FREE  
**Overview:**  
 Goldfield Ghost Town was first established around 1892 when the first gold-strike was discovered. In its glory days, the town supported about 4,000 people. The town

consisted of three saloons, a boarding house, general store, blacksmith shop, brewery, meat market and a schoolhouse. Now Goldfield Ghost Town has a variety of attractions. Families can stroll down Main Street, explore the many shops and buildings, visit the Goldfield Superstition Museum, pan for gold, take a narrow gauge train ride, and witness an old west gunfight. Lodging and camping are also available. Sunday Service and Weddings are held at the Church on the Mount.



**Information found at:** <http://www.goldfieldghosttown.com/>

## Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino

**Website:** <http://www.harrahscasinos.com/harrahscasinos-ak-chin/hotel-casino/property-home.shtml>  
**Address:** 15406 Maricopa Road, Maricopa, AZ 85239  
**Phone:** 480-802-5000  
**Overview:**  
 The Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino is 40,000 square feet of gaming. They have everything from slots, keno, poker, live dealer blackjack to bingo. Harrah's Ak-Chin is more than just a casino. It is a full-scale resort destination. On the grounds, visitors have plenty to do. There is shopping, a golf getaway, exotic pool, jacuzzi and Corkscrew's swim bar. If you need a place to rest after playing, Harrah's Ak-Chin has 144 luxurious guest rooms. They also have a 5,000 square-foot ballroom for weddings or any other special occasion.

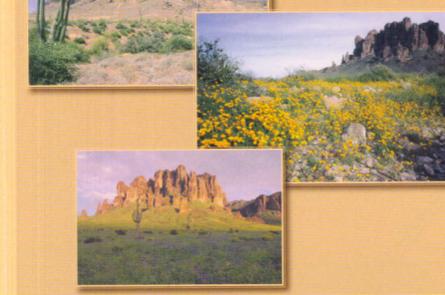
**Information found at:** <http://www.harrahscasinos.com/harrahscasinos-ak-chin/hotel-casino/property-home.shtml>



## Lost Dutchman State Park

**Website:** <http://azstateparks.com/Parks/parkhtml/lostdutchman.html>  
**Address:** 6109 N. Apache Trail, Apache Junction, Arizona 85219  
**Phone:** 480-982-4485  
**Hours:** Daily from sunrise to 10:00 pm  
**Entrance Fees:** \$5.00 per vehicle; Friday before Memorial Day through the Tuesday after Labor Day: \$3.00 per vehicle; other fees available at <http://azstateparks.com/feeschedule.html>

**Overview:**  
 Named after the fabled lost gold mine, Lost Dutchman State Park is located in the Sonoran Desert at an elevation of 2000 feet. The park offers a variety of hiking trails, nature trails, 35 regular campsites, picnic facilities, and special programs throughout the year. Mild winter climates and the close proximity to the Valley of the Sun make this an ideal destination. During the winter, daytime temperatures usually reach about 60°F; while the summer months can see temperatures soar above 100°F.



## McFarland State Historic Park

**Website:** <http://www.azstateparks.com/Parks/parkhtml/mcfarland.html>  
**Address:** 24 W Ruggles St, Florence, AZ 85232  
**Phone:** 520-868-5216  
**Hours:** Daily 8:00 am to 5:00 pm except Christmas Day  
**Entrance Fees:** Adults (Ages 14 and older) are \$3.00, Children (Ages 13 and younger) are FREE

**Overview:**  
 McFarland Courthouse and museum provides visitors with a window into the past. The 1878 Territorial Courthouse represents a transition between Sonoran and Anglo-American architecture with a wood-shingled pitched roof surmounting traditional adobe brick walls. Like most buildings in Territorial Arizona, the original 1878 structure was constructed by hand using native materials. In 1963, the Pinal County Historical Society acquired and maintained the building as a museum. Today, the buildings and house exhibits depicting the history of the area include the Ernest McFarland Archives and World War II POW Camp.



## Maricopa, Arizona

**Website:** <http://www.maricopachamber.com>  
**Phone:** 520-568-9573  
**Overview:**  
 Maricopa has had three locations over the years: Maricopa Wells, Maricopaville and Maricopa Junction which gradually became known as Maricopa. Each stage of its life has contributed greatly to the growth and development of the Southwest. Its conception took place at a series of watering holes eight miles north of present day Maricopa, and about a mile west of Pima Butte. Today The City of Maricopa is in partnership with the private business sector, is actively engaged in recruiting universities, colleges, hospitals and employers to the community. Maricopa, with its rapid growth, was named one of Arizona's fastest growing cities and is begging for businesses of all sorts. Maricopa has a projected population of over 100,000 within the next four years. It also has the additional advantage of being able to pull in patrons from surrounding areas such as Stanfield, Gila Bend, Hidden Valley, Thunderbird Farms and Mobile.



## Oracle State Park

**Website:** <http://azstateparks.com/Parks/parkhtml/oracle.html>  
**Address:** 3820 Wildlife Drive, Oracle, Arizona 85623  
**Phone:** 520-896-2425  
**Hours:** Daily 7:00 am to 5:00 pm except Christmas Day; House tours available on Saturdays and Sundays at 10:00 am and 2:00 pm  
**Entrance Fees:** \$6.00 per vehicle; Friday before Memorial Day through the Tuesday after Labor Day: \$5.00 per vehicle; other fees available at <http://azstateparks.com/feeschedule.html>

**Overview:**  
 The Oracle State Park Center for Environmental Education is located in the northeastern foothills of the Santa Catalina Mountains, at an elevation of 3,500 - 4,500 feet. The nearly 4,000-acre park offers a variety of hiking and nature trails, including a segment of the Arizona Trail. Picnicking and house tours are also popular. The park consists of oak grassland, riparian woodland, and mesquite shrub habitats which contain a diversity of wildlife and plant species. Acting as a wildlife refuge and environmental learning center, the park's educational programs present basic ecologic principles.



## Pinal County Historical Museum

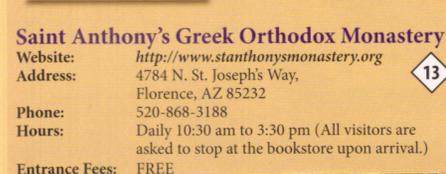
**Address:** 715 S. Main Street, Florence, Arizona 85232  
**Phone:** 520-868-4382  
**Hours:** Tuesday thru Saturday 11-4, Sunday 12-4 from September 1 to July 15

**Overview:**  
 The Pinal County Historical Society Museum is a great first stop to help you explore historic Florence. Experience the authentic wild west excitement when you see the bullet holes from the famous 1888 shoot out. Barbed wire, bullets, cactus furniture and the notorious prison display of hangman's nooses join the cowboy and antique furnishing to give a complete picture of old Florence. Don't miss the Gene Autry, Tom Mix, and Prisoner of War Camp displays from a more recent era. Much of Arizona history is represented in Florence. Learn more at the Pinal County Historical Museum located at 715 S. Main Street, Florence.

## Picacho Peak State Park

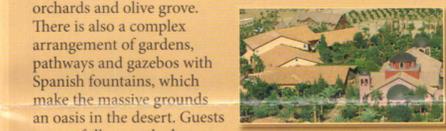
**Website:** <http://azstateparks.com/Parks/parkhtml/picacho.html>  
**Address:** PO Box 275 (1-10 Exit 219), Picacho, AZ 85241  
**Phone:** 520-466-3183  
**Hours:** Park is open: 8:00 am to 10:00 pm  
 Office hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm (varies by season)  
**Entrance Fees:** Fee schedule - <http://azstateparks.com/feeschedule.html>

**Overview:**  
 Picacho Peak State Park is a recreation park set within the Sonoran Desert. The ark offers a unique geological feature rising 1500 feet above the desert floor providing a verity of hiking trails and scenic opportunities. The park offers electric and non-electric campsites, and a verity of picnic areas, for individuals or groups. If weather conditions allow, the park can be blanketed with the Mexican Gold Poppy during the spring time. Picacho Peak was used as a navigational land mark in the past, allowing visitors today to learn of the most historical significance of the area. Picacho Peak is the location of the most significant Civil War skirmish in Arizona, which took place on April 15, 1862. Today, visitors enjoy viewing exciting mock battles during the annual "Civil War In The Southwest" event held in March.



## Saint Anthony's Greek Orthodox Monastery

**Website:** <http://www.stanthonymonastery.org>  
**Address:** 4784 N. St. Joseph's Way, Florence, AZ 85232  
**Phone:** 520-868-3188  
**Hours:** Daily 10:30 am to 3:30 pm (All visitors are asked to stop at the bookstore upon arrival.)  
**Entrance Fees:** FREE  
**Overview:**  
 Six monks arrived in the Sonoran desert in 1995 from Mount Athos, Greece. The monastery has now grown to 40 fathers. The monks at St. Anthony's follow the "coenobitic" way, which means they all follow the same schedule under the discretion of the Abbot. The monastery consists of the main church, living quarters for the monks, the dining hall, guest facilities, vegetable garden, small vineyard, citrus orchards and olive grove. There is also a complex arrangement of gardens, pathways and gazebos with Spanish fountains, which make the massive grounds an oasis in the desert. Guests respectfully are asked to dress accordingly. Visit the website for more details.



**Information found at:** <http://www.stanthonymonastery.org/VisitorInfo.htm> & <http://www.stanthonymonastery.org/VisitorGuide.htm>

## San Manuel, Arizona

**Overview:**  
 San Manuel is located in the San Pedro River valley at an elevation of about 3500 feet. It was built in 1953 as a company town to serve the San Manuel copper mine and smelter. Two other communities are located within a 10 miles radius, Mammoth and Oracle, making up the tri-community area. The area is noted for its beautiful panoramic views of the San Pedro River and the Galiuro and Catalina Mountains with Mt. Lemmon just a short drive away.



## Tonto National Park Cliff Dwelling

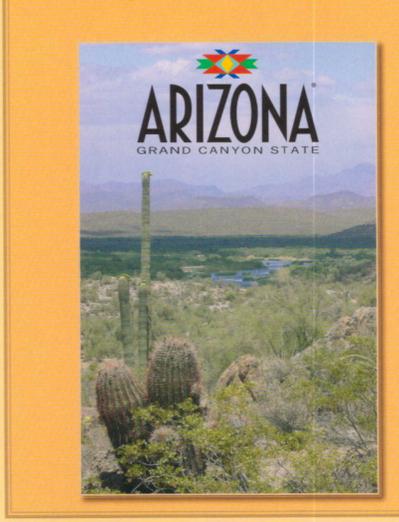
**Website:** <http://www.nps.gov/tont/>  
**Address:** Highway 188, Roosevelt, AZ 85545 (near Theodore Roosevelt Lake)  
**Phone:** 520-467-2241  
**Hours:** Daily 8:00 am to 5:00 pm except Christmas Day; Lower Cliff Dwelling trail closes to uphill travel at 4:00 pm.  
**Entrance Fees:** \$3.00 per person

**Overview:**  
 The Tonto Cliff Dwellings are a remnant of the Salado people. President Roosevelt protected the dwellings after the construction of the Roosevelt Dam began. The Tonto National Park consists of the Lower and Upper Cliff Dwellings. The Upper Cliff Dwellings are only open November to April and it is a 3-mile round trip hike. To get the Lower Cliff Dwelling, it is only a 1/2 mile trek. The park also has scheduled special activities like full moon hikes, off-site hikes and living history demonstrations.

**Information found at:** <http://www.nps.gov/tont/>

# Pinal County Communities

- Ak-Chin**  
Home of the Ak-Chin Him-Dak museum
- Apache Junction**  
Foothills of the Superstition Mountains/Lost Dutchman mine
- Arizona City**  
49 acre man-made lake for fishing and sailing
- Casa Grande**  
Fantastic events and retail shopping in this fast-track city with small-town charm
- Coolidge**  
Home of the historic Hohokam Casa Grande Ruins
- Eloy**  
Home of Sky Dive Arizona
- Florence**  
County seat; 6th oldest town in Arizona
- Gila River Indian Community**  
Rich heritage of the Akimal O'odham (Pima) and Pee-Posh (Maricopa)
- Hayden**  
Copper mining community; dramatic mountain and canyon scenery
- Kearny**  
OHV/ATV campsites in the mountain foothills; 11 acre lake for fishing
- Mammoth**  
Classic example of range and basin ecological system; noted for geological features
- Maricopa**  
Home of The Duke at Rancho el Dorado golf course, a top "25 places to play golf"
- Oracle**  
Home of Acadia Ranch Museum, Oracle's first post office
- Picacho/Picacho Peak**  
Scene of the most significant Civil War Battle this far west
- Queen Creek**  
Historic sites include the ruins of a Butterfield Stage stop
- Red Rock**  
Known for its unique, red-rock geologic formations
- Sacaton**  
Site of tribal administration offices of the Gila River Indian Community
- San Manuel**  
12 miles from Biosphere 2; all types of desert flora
- Superior**  
Home of the Bob Jones Museum (sixth governor of Arizona)
- Winkelman**  
See Winkelman's Historic Bridge, built in 1916, registered as a historical place



**Website:** <http://arboretum.ag.arizona.edu/>  
**Address:** 37615 U.S. Highway 60, Superior, AZ 85273  
**Phone:** 520-689-2723  
**Summer Hours:** May through August the Arboretum is open daily from 6:00 am until 3:00 pm. Paid admissions are accepted until 2:00 pm and closes promptly at 3:00 pm.  
**Winter Hours:** September through April admission is taken daily from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm (every day except Dec. 25) and it closes promptly at 5:00 pm.  
**Entrance Fees:** Adult Admission is \$7.50, Children ages 5 to 12 are \$3; Children ages under 5 are FREE

**Overview:**  
 Boyce Thompson Arboretum State Park is the place to discover the intricate beauty and many faces of Arizona's botanical life. The Arboretum is Arizona's oldest and largest botanical garden, which was founded in the 1920s by mining magnate Col. William Boyce Thompson. In 1917, Thompson served as co-leader of a Red Cross mercy mission to Russia where he came to understand the importance of plants as the ultimate source of mankind's food, clothing, and shelter. Encompassing 323 acres, the Arboretum is the first purely botanical institution in the inter-mountain states.

## Boyce Thompson Arboretum State Park

